DNR Program

Indiana Department of Natural Resources Patoka Lake Visitor Center 3084 N. Dillard Rd. Birdseye, IN 47513

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For immediate release: September 5, 2006

Autumn Getaway Weekend at Patoka

WHAT: Patoka Lake Autumn Getaway Weekend

WHEN: Friday, October 13th & Saturday, October 14th

eastern daylight time

WHERE: Patoka Lake Modern Campgrounds & Patoka Visitor Center

DNR, Newton Stewart State Recreation Area

Wickliffe, Indiana

WHO: Everyone welcome!

HOW: Celebrate the exciting and colorful Fall season at Patoka Lake's

annual "**Autumn Getaway Weekend"**, on Friday, October 13th and Saturday October 14th. Join in a friendly competition for the Campsite Decorating Contest. Children camping have

the opportunity to go trick or treating on Saturday.

Friday, October 13th, enjoy Friendship Stew with the Harmon Family. Bring canned goods to add to the soup at 5p.m. and bring tableware (bowls, spoons, etc.), preferred drinks and snack items (crackers, cheese, etc.) for vegetable soup at 7p.m. At 7:30p.m., join guest interpretive naturalist Zach Walker, DNR Hardy Lake for "Raptors of Indiana" and a close-up look at birds of prey.

Saturday, October 14th, beginning at 9a.m., join in the Fall Family Fun Time with crafts, games and activities for all ages.

Bring a white cotton T-shirt for tie dying. Look for the tents by the playground near the gatehouse.

At 12 noon, sign up for the 4th annual Dutch Oven Cooking Competition. With creative flair, Dutch ovens and supplies, create a dish by 3:30p.m.; to be judged as well as tasted by the public.

1p.m. Chris Bell, Interpretive Naturalist, O'Bannon Woods State Park will present "Snakes of southern Indiana" with a close-up look at a live guest or two. Hear fascinating facts about these misunderstood creatures of nature.

2p.m. Jim Floyd, EMS Program Manager of St. Vincent Indianapolis Hospital will present "Spiders & Snakes: Effects on Humans" with a special guest or two.

4p.m. TASTE OF PATOKA, offers campers a taste of the Dutch Oven Cooking dishes as well as cast iron chili, prepared and served by DNR staff and volunteers. Bring a bowl or cup, tableware, crackers & chips to share and preferred drinks for the "Taste of Patoka" at 4p.m.

Campsites should be decorated by 5 p.m. for the evening events and decorating contest. Campers 12 years of age and under invited to "Trick or Treat" from 5:30-7p.m. around the campgrounds. 1st Cut Grass music group presents bluegrass & old time music as well as vocal harmonies at 7:30 p.m. indoors at the Visitor Center. Winners will be announced at 9 p.m. for the Dutch Oven Cook-Off as well as Campsite Decorating Contest. Bring lawn chairs, family and friends and enjoy an evening of music, friendship and more at Patoka.

For more information regarding this special event, details of Dutch Oven Cook-Off, or other programs at Patoka, call the Visitor Center at 812/685-2447.

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News reporter contact: Maria Abel-Crecelius, Patoka Lake Visitor Center, 812/685-2447